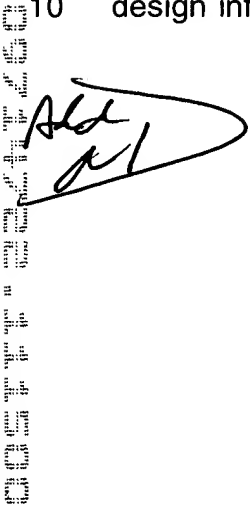


## CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

- 5            1.        A method of improving a physical design of a current integrated circuit, comprising the steps of:
- a)        receiving a netlist of said current integrated circuit;
  - b)        receiving physical design information from a prior integrated circuit; and
  - c)        generating said physical design based on said netlist and said physical
- 10        design information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JSG', is written over the vertical line of the claim text on the left side of the page.